

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Monday May 4. to Thursday May 7. 1685.

Edinburgh, the 23. of April. 1685.

THis morning about Nine a Clock (being the day appointed for opening of the Parliament) the Duke of Queensberry His Majesties High Commissioner called a Council in the Abby, where a Patent under the Great Seal, creating Secretary Lundin Viscount of Melfort, Lord Drummond of Gilstoun, &c. Being read in Council, was ordered to be Recorded; And thereafter Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Clodburn, and Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwelltoun, who had formerly received Patents from His Majesty as Baronets, were Dubd by his Grace with the Sword of State.

About Ten a Clock the Cavalcade began, The Streets from the Palace to the Neather Bow, being on both sides guarded by His Majesties Regiment of Foot-Guards in excellent order, and all very fine in their new Arms and Liveries, from the Neather Bow to the Constables-Guard at the utter Gate of the Parliament-Court the Streets were Railed on each side and guarded by Twenty six Companies of the Trainbands and the City Militia Regiment, all in good order.

About half an hour before the rest, The Earl of Perth Lord High Chancellor, and the Marquis of Athole Lord Privy-Seal, The Earl of Kintore Lord Thesaurer Deput, and the Lord Regitter now Viscount of Tarbet rode up in their Robes, The Chancellors Purse and Mace being carried before his Lordship, And the Lord Thesaurer Deput carrying a White Rod being the Badge of his Office as Comptroler of His Majesties Household.

Sometime thereafter the Cavalcade began in this manner.

Two Trumpets in their Coats and Banners }
bearheaded, } To Usher the Way.

Two Pursevants in their Coats with Foot- }
mantles, }
The Commissioners for Burghs, two and two }
The Commissioners for Shires, two and two, }
The Lord Advocate and Lord Justice Clerk in }
their Gowns, } All very fine with
The Lords or Barons of Parliament in their }
Robes. } their Foot-Man-
tles and traping
conform.

The Bishops two and two }
The Viscounts in their Robes. }
The Earls in their Robes, two and two. }
The two Arch-Bishops. }
Four Trumpets in their Coats with Banners, bearheaded, two }
a-breat. }
Four Pursevants in their Coats with Foot-Mantles, bearheaded, }
two a-breat. }
Six Heralds in Coats with Foot-Mantles, bearheaded, two and two. }
The Lyon King at Arms in his Coat, Robe, }
Collar, and Batton. } Both bearheaded.

The Usher upon the Lyons Left hand. }
The Sword of State born by the Earl of Air. }
The Scepter born by the Earl of Marr. } All bearheaded
The Crown carried by the Marquis of Douglas. }
Three Maces on each side of the Royal Honours bearing their }
Maces bearheaded. }

The Earl of Drumlanrig bearing the Royal Commission in a }
Crimson Velvet Bag, bearheaded. }

His Majesties High Commissioner, attended with Four Knights }
on foot, Two on each side bear, and Ushered by his Grace's }
Secretary and Gentleman of Horse, and attended by Pages }
and Footmen; And in his return to the Palace having the High }
Constable on his right hand and the Great Marshall on his left, }
with Permission Caps and in their Robes. }

The Duke of Hamilton in his Robes and Collar. }
The Captain of His Majesties Troop of Guards, on the head }
of the Troop with their Trumpets and Kettle-Drums, all very }
fine in their new Liveries. }

The High Commissioner being come to the Constables Guard, }
his Lordship attended his Grace bearheaded to the Marshalls }
Guard, and then both Constable and Marshall in their Robes }
with their Battons in their hands attended his Grace up to the }
Throne. At the utter Door of the Parliament-House the Lord }
Chancellor and the rest of the Officers of State received his }
Grace, The Trumpets, Heralds and Lyon in their Formalities }
going immediately before the Honours which were carried as }
is above set down. At the utter Bar, The Lord Chancellor }
took the Purse (the Emblem of the Great Seal) in his own }
hand, and Ushered his Grace up to the Throne, where being }
set, all the Members took their several places, The Bishop of

Edinburgh having said Prayers, the Rolls were called by the }
Lord Regitter, and then the Lord Chancellor went up to the }
Throne and received the Royal Commission upon his Knee, }
which his Lordship delivered to the Clerk Regitter, who read }
the same. That being done, His Grace put on his Hatt to re- }
present his Royal Matters Sovereign Authority.

The Lord Regitter reading the Formula, the Lyon King at }
Arms standing on the steps of the Throne, Fenced the High }
Court of Parliament in the ordinary manner, and the Members }
having taken the accustomed Oaths, His Majesties most Gracious }
Letter to the Parliament was read, giving them entire }
Satisfaction. After which his Grace made an excel- }
lent Speech to the Parliament, signifying what he had in }
command from His Majesty to represent to them, and what }
was expected from them at this meeting extremely appo- }
site to the greatness of the Occasion; And which was seconded }
by my Lord Chancellor in another very Loyal and Eloquent }
Speech, both which the Parliament desired might be Printed. }
And it being moved by the Marquis of Athole Lord Privy-Seal, }
That his Grace might name a Committee for preparing an An- }
swer to His Sacred Majesty, He named them accordingly, Viz.

From the Clergy, }
The two Arch-Bishops.

From the Nobility, }
The Duke of Hamilton, }
Earl of Tweeddale.

From the Commissioners of Shires, }
The President of the Session, }
Sir George Lockhart.

From the Boroughs, }
The L. Provost of Edinburgh }
Provost of Linlithgow.

The Patent creating the Lord Regitter Viscount of Tarbet }
Lord Mo. Cleod and Castlehaven, was likewise read in Parla- }
ment and delivered to his Lordship.

For the Articles were chosen by the Bishops

The D. of Hamilton, }
Marquis of Douglas, }
Earl of Errol, }
Earl Marshall,

Earl of Murte }
Earl of Strathmore, }
Earl of Southell, }
Earl of Tweeddale.

By the Temporal Lords were chosen,

The two Arch-Bishops, }
The Bishop of Edinburgh }
The Bishop of Galloway, }
The Bishop of Dunkeld,

The Bishop of Aberdeen. }
The Bishop of Cathnes, }
The Bishop of Breichen.

Which Sixteen Lords Spiritual and Temporal, with the Officers }
of State (who are still supernumerary in all Committees of Par- }
liament) made choice for the Shires of

General Dalyell, }
President of the Session, }
Colonel Douglas, }
Sir George Lockhart,

Sir David Balfour of Forrer, }
Sir Thomas Stewart of Balcaskie, }
Sir William Bruce of Kinross, }
John Boyle of Kelburne.

And for the Boroughs

Sir Geo. Drummond for Edinb. } John Johnston for Glasgow, }
Fletcher for Dundie. } James Boile for Irving, }
Sir George Skein for Aberdeen, } Sr. Pat. Murray for Drumfermling }
Alex. Miln for Linlithgow, } Mr. Ja. Smalet for Dunbarton.

The Lord High Commissioner named a Committee for con- }
sidering the deareable Elections, viz.

For the Clergy, }
Bishop of Edinburgh, }
Bishop of Ross, }
Bishop of Dunblain.

For the Nobility, }
Earl of Wintoun, }
Earl of Linlithgow, }
Earl of Belcarras,

For the Shires, }
Sir James Foulis of Redford, }
Sir Robert Dalyell, }
Will. Hamilton of Orbistoun,

For the Boroughs, }
Provost of Perth, }
Provost of St. Andrews, }
Provost of Culrose.

His Majesties High Commissioner recommended to the Arti- }
cles to meet to morrow at Nine a Clock, and to the Committee }
for Elections to meet at the same time; and adjourned the Par- }
liament till Tuesday at Ten a Clock in the Forenoon; And so }
His Grace rode down to the Palace attended in the same man- }
ner as is above set down, where his Grace being served in State }
by the Earl of Wintoun Master of His Majesties Household; }
assisted

assisted by the Earls of Traquair, Annandale, and Kintore. At the same time the whole Members of Parliament were magnificently treated at Supper at several large Tables in the Gallery of the Palace now finished and adorned with the Pictures of His Majesties Royal Predecessors from Fergus the First, being 110 Kings. And in regard this day Their Majesties are Crowned in England, and this being His Majesty's first Parliament in Scotland, the day was concluded with ringing of Bells, Bonfires, shooting of Great Guns from the Castle, and all other expressions of Joy, and with the great and universal satisfaction of the whole People, who were gathered together in great Crowds from all parts of the Countrey upon this solemn Occasion.

His Majesties Gracious Letter to the Parliament.

JAMES R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THe many Experiences We have had of the Loyalty and Exemplary forwardness of that our Ancient Kingdom, by their Representatives in Parliament Assembled, in the Reign of our dearest and most entirely beloved Brother of ever Blessed Memory, made Us desirous to call you at this Time in the beginning of Our Reign, to give you an opportunity not only of shewing your Duty to Us in the same manner, but likewise of being Exemplary to others in your Demonstrations of Affection to Our Person, and compliance with Our desires, as you have most eminently been in Times past, to a degree never to be forgotten by Us, nor (We hope) to be contradicted by your future Practices. That which We are at this Time to propose unto you, is what is as necessary for your Safety as Our Service, and what has a tendency more to secure your own Privileges and Properties than the Aggrandising our Power and Authority (though in it consists the greatest Security of your Rights and Interests, these never having been in danger except when the Royal Power was brought too low to protect them) which now We are resolved to maintain in its greatest Lustre, to the end we may be the more enabled to Defend and Protect your Religion as Established by Law, and your Rights and Properties (which was Our Design in calling this Parliament) against Phanatical Contrivances, Murderers and Assassins, who having no fear of God more than Honour for Us, have brought you into such difficulties as only the Blessing of God upon the steady Resolutions and Actions of Our said dearest Royal Brother, and those employed by Him, (in Prosecution of the good and wholesome Laws by you heretofore offered) could have saved you from the most horrid Confusions and Inevitable Ruin. Nothing has been left unattempted by those wild and inhumane Traytors for endeavouring to overturn your Peace; And therefore We have good Reason to hope, that nothing will be wanting in you to secure your selves and Us from their outrages and violence in Time coming, and to take care that such Conspirators meet with their just deservings, so as others may thereby be deterred from Courses so little agreeable to Religion, or their Duty and Allegiance to Us. These things we considered to be of so great importance to Our Royal as well as the Universal interest of that Our Kingdom, that We were fully resolved in Person to have proposed the needfull Remedies to you, but things having so fallen out as render this impossible for us; We have now thought fit to send our Right Trusty and Right entirely beloved Cousin and Counsellor William Duke of Queensberry to be Our Commissioner amongst you; of whose Abilities and Qualifications We have Reason to be fully satisfied, and of whose Faithfulness to Us, and Zeal for Our Interest we have had Signal Proofs in the Times of Our greatest difficulties. Him We have fully instructed in all Things Relating to Our Service, and your own Prosperity and Happiness, and therefore you are to give him intire Trust and Credit as you now see we have done; From whose Prudence and your most Dutiful Affection to Us We have full Confidence of your entire Compliance and Assistance in all those Matters wherein he is instructed as aforesaid. We do therefore not only recommend unto you, that such things be done as are necessary in this Fundture for your own Peace and the support of Our Royal Interest,

both at home and abroad, but also that you do them so speedily as may Evidence to the World that you are still in the same manner addited to the Royal Interest, of which we had so much Experience when amongst you, that we cannot doubt of your full and ample Expressing the same on this occasion; by which the great concern we have in you Our Ancient and kindly People may still increase, and you may Transmit your Loyal Actions (as Examples of Duty) to your Posterity. In full Confidence whereof We do assure you of Our Royal Favour and Protection in all your concerns. And so We bid you Heartily Farewell.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the 28th day of March 1685, and of Our Reign the first Year.

By His Majesties Command

D R U M M O N D.

The Speech of the Lord High Commissioner.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HIS Majesty has been pleased so fully and obligingly by the Letter you have now heard to intimate his Royal pleasure to you, as what I am to say seems in a manner superfluous, so I need not take up much of your time, nor shall I do more than touch a few things as briefly as is possible.

And in the first place, my Lords, This being the day of His Majesties Coronation in our Neighbouring Kingdom, you see he is no sooner placed on the Throne of his Royal Ancestors than he inclines to have your advice in what may import the good of his Service and Subjects here. By which you ought not only to be convinced of the great confidence His Majesty has in the Loyalty of this his Ancient Kingdom, and their good Example to his other Dominions, but also how fully he makes good his Royal Word and Declaration, to follow (in his Reign) the Example of his late Majesty of ever glorious Memory under whose Protection and Government we enjoyed so long Peace and Quiet; I say (my Lords) as by calling you so soon, His Majesty expresses great confidence in you, and seems still mindful of the Zeal and Affection of the last Parliament for the Rights and Prerogative of the Crown, so (in a due return) it is not to be doubted, but you will upon this occasion not only exceed what has been formerly done, but also comply with all that can be proposed for establishing His Majesties Greatness and your own Security, and by this convince the World how sensible you are of the great honor His Majesty has allowed you of being the first Parliament of his Dominions to do so.

I am in the next place to tell you, that His Majesty is very mindful of the Duty and Loyalty of this Kingdom to his late Majesty and himself, when he was here amongst us: And the better to compose the minds of his faithful Subjects, I am allowed to assure you of his Princely Resolutions to protect and maintain the Religion and Government of this Church as they are now Established by Law, and that he will take the Persons and Concerns of the Regular Clergy into his special Care and Protection; And in order thereunto, I am to give the Royal Assent to such Laws and Acts as can be reasonably proposed.

I am likewise to let you know, That His Majesty will concernedly maintain your just Rights and Properties according to the Established Laws of this Kingdom, and will not allow of oppressive Arbitrary Proceedings in Soldiers or others. And further His Majesty being sensible of the great decay of our Trade, has warranted me in His Royal Name to consent to such Laws as can reasonably be proposed for recovery and improvment thereof.

And my Lords, to conclude what I am to say on this Subject, His Majesty is so concerned in the Encouragement, Welfare and Prosperity of this his Ancient Kingdom, as He will not only do what can justly be desired or expected for these ends, but even in the Business of the Excise and Militia (his immediate concerns) I am warranted to go the greatest lengths for your ease and conveniency that

the nature of these things can bear, and His Majesties Service and your own Security will allow.

And my Lords, His Majesty having in all things so evidently shew'd his gracious inclinations for the good of this Kingdom and given us the fullest assurances of his Favour and Protection that our hearts can desire, what suitable Returns and Acknowledgments can we make to so excellent and incomparable a Prince? who in all things relating to our quiet and prosperity prevents our very desires; So if during his Reign (which I pray God to make long and glorious) we be not the happiest people in the World, we have only our selves to blame.

And now the King having so fully done his part, it concerns you in the next place to mind yours; And in order thereunto, I make no doubt but you will assert the Rights and Prerogatives of the Crown, and establish the Revenue as amply upon His Majesty and his Lawful Successors as it was enjoyed by the late King or any of his Royal Predecessors, since you cannot (in the least) doubt but his Royal care for your repose and security will rather exceed than fall short of any of his Ancestors. But to use any further Arguments to incite you to what is so much your Duty and Interest, were at the same time to question your Loyalty and Zeal for His Majesties Service, and your concern for the interest and honour of your Native Country whose Representatives you are, so I shall not injure you, nor lessen your thanks by saying more upon this Subject.

My Lords, His Majesty certainly expects from the Prudence and Loyalty of this Parliament, that effectual ways will be fallen upon for destroying that desperate Phannical and irreclaimable Party who have brought us to the brink of Ruine and Disgrace, and are no more Rebels against the King than Enemies of Mankind; Wretches of such Monstrous Principles and Practices as past Ages never heard, nor those to come will hardly believe: What Indemnities and Acts of Grace and Clemency have they not Contemned? And all the use they made of them has still been to harden and confirm them in their execrable Villanies; and how inconsiderable sooner they appear, assure your selves they ought not absolutely to be contemned; for if they had not support and correspondence not yet discovered it is not to be supposed they could have so long escaped the care and vigilance of the Government: It therefore concerns you both in Honor and Prudence, no longer to dully wish them, but that the utmost severities be most effectually applied, and all ways taken, both to find out their Favourers and retired and secret Haunts.

My Lords, I doubt not but all of you sufficiently know that some of our Nation are deeply involved in the late Horrid Conspiracy, who (and some others for other Treasonable Crimes and Practices) are to be proceeded against before this Parliament; The Evidence of their Guilt I shall leave to its proper Place and Time, and do not doubt but His Majesties Advocate will manage that weighty matter with suitable care and faithfulness: So all I shall further say upon this Subject at present is, that if Almighty God (who watches over the security of Princes) had not Miraculously Discovered and disappointed those the most Hellish and Barbarous Designs that were ever contrived, in Place of that Peace, Happiness, and Tranquillity which we now Enjoy, these Kingdoms had certainly been at this day a Sea of Blood, and in all imaginable Misery and Desolation; which (being evident beyond denial) will certainly provoke your and all good Mens Indignation and Resentment against those who can be wretched, not only as Advisers and Conjurors of such Villanies, but Concealers of them: And since our Honour and Security every way seems absolutely bound up in the Life of His Sacred Majesty, ought we not most cheerfully to grant what the Exigencies of His mild and gentle Government requires? Especially seeing what we give is still bestowed upon our selves, and for maintaining us in our just Rights and Possessions, against the most cruel and Barbarous Designs of his and our Enemies.

And now my Lords and Gentlemen, in the last place touching my self I shall not say much, my unfitness for this Eminent Station is possibly more obvious to me than to any of you; however since His Majesty has been Graciously pleased to place me in it, I am resolved to serve him boldly and firmly, and thereby labour to make up my other great defects: And as this has still been my Practice in the other great Trusts I have the Honour to carry under His Majesty, so I know His Goodness will always accept the sincere endeavors of His Servants in place of greater Performances.

The Lord High Chancellor's Speech.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFTER what my Lord Commissioner hath so well represented to you, it will be very little necessary for me to say much. I shall only take the liberty to put you in mind, (of what I believe you are very sensible already) of the many obligations this Nation lies under to be grateful to our great Monarch.

When by the Command of the late King, His Majesty who now Reigns came first hither, what Disorders, Divisions, and Animosities found he amongst us? To bring the state of things into your prospect as it was then, could not be very grateful to you, nor pleasing to me, but we all remember with joy how well he left us, and by what easy gentle ways he brought about the Establishment of that Unity, which we were beginning to despair of.

Since that time, how much we have been in his particular care, during the Happy Reign of that Excellent Prince His Brother, of ever Blessed and Glorious Memory, is known to all the World.

But of all the instances of His Majesties Care for us, his Favour towards us, and his good Opinion of us, this of His calling us together in the very beginning of His Reign, (which God grant may be long and prosperous) that we might have the opportunity of presenting Him with the first Fruits of the Service of His Parliaments, and of becoming Examples to His other Dominions, is the greatest and what we should prize the most, improving it as far as it will go.

When we consider what strange turns the extravagant Follies of some, and the malicious devilish Contrivances of others among us have taken, since the last Meeting of a Parliament, what Convulsions have Attacked the Body of this Nation, and how vile a Ferment has rag'd in it, to have our Advice call'd for by our Prince how to provide proper Remedies for it, is the greatest Honour could be put upon us.

That we may do what in Duty we are bound in return, let us lay aside all private Aims and Ends; for how can we hope to serve His Majesty, or promote the Interest of the Nation, while our Eye is directed only towards our own particular? and let us with the Frankness and Cheerfulness of honest SCOTSMEN, use all possible means for Uniting of the Nation, and the driving from amongst us, whoever will not joyn with us upon such Terms, as may conduce to the Advancement of the Honour and Interest of our King and his Crown, and the Well-being of this our Native Country, which we should not suffer to be defiled and rendred contemptible to the whole World, by entertaining so Venemous a Bastardly brood of villainous men, as have of late, to the reproach of Scotland, and of Humane Nature itself, maintained Principles, and ventured upon Practices not to be named amongst any who have ever heard of a Government, much less of Religion.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

You all know what a Conspiracy hath been entered into by ill men of both Kingdoms, against the sacred Lives of the late King and His present Majesty, and who but incarnate Devils could think of attempting any thing against such precious Lives? For what Prince in Europe, or the whole World, was ever like the late King, except His Glorious Brother who now Reigns? and to have cut off any of them, had been barbarous to a degree of making us appear more abominable than any people ever were, but for us to have lost both, had been our utter ruine. Yet against both was the design laid, and had succeeded, if that watchful Providence, which hath so often preserved the two Royal Brothers in so many difficulties, had not defeated the success, by an un-fore-seen accident, and had it succeeded, what Confusion, what Cruelty, what Blood, what unexpressible Misery had overflowed these Kingdoms?

But besides this, we have a new Sect sprung up amongst us from the dunghill, the very dregs of the people, who kill by pretended Inspiration, and instead of The Temple of the Lord, the Temple of the Lord, have nothing in their mouths but The Word of God, wresting that blessed conveyance of his Holy Will to us, to justify a practice suggested to them by him who was a Murderer from the beginning, who having modelled themselves into a Common-wealth, (whose Idol is that accursed paper the Covenant, and whose only Rule is to have none at all) have proceeded to declare themselves no longer His Majesties Subjects to forfeit all of us, who have the honour to serve him in any considerable station, and will be sure ere long to do